

U. S. WEATHER BUREAU, MARCH 6—Last 24 hours' rainfall, .00; Temperature, max. 72; min. 60; Weather, fair to cloudy with valley showers.

SUGAR—96° Test Centrifugals, 5.15; Per Ton, \$103. 88 Analysis Beets, 15s 4 1-2d; Per Ton, \$106 80.

Established July 2, 1856.

VOL. XLI, NO. 7044.

HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1905.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

MRS. STANFORD WAS POISONED

Testimony of the Doctors Leaves Little Doubt of That Important Fact.

Almost within sight of the room at the Moana Hotel where she met her death crying that she had been poisoned, within sound of the waves that run incessantly upon Waikiki beach, the inquest upon the body of Mrs. Jane L. Stanford was begun yesterday. There was, in fact, little that was impressive about the opening of the inquiry. There was so little that was impressive, that the few persons gathered in the private dining room of the Moana, where the inquiry was held, might well have been brought together for a much more commonplace purpose than an endeavor to find out whether a woman of world wide note had met her death at the hands of a poisoner.

The inquest was not concluded last night, being adjourned at a late hour until this afternoon, but the testimony taken bore out very strongly, so far as it went, the theory of poisoning. It is true that the chemists did not testify. Presumably, they are still testing the stomach of the dead woman, and the bottle of bi-carbonate of soda from which she took the fatal dose, for traces of poison. But both Dr. Murray and Dr. Humphris made absolutely positive statements that Mrs. Stanford had died of strychnine poisoning. Dr. Humphris gave his reasons for this belief, which was more than an opinion, and Dr. Murray said that if he had been called to the case and known none of the circumstances he would have treated the patient for strychnine poisoning.

The private dining rooms of the Moana—there are two of them—were thrown into one apartment for the purposes of the inquest, a large table for the use of the reporters being placed directly in the connecting doorway, completely blocking it. The deputy sheriff, in whose charge the inquiry was, sat near a small table in the inner room where a couple of stenographers took notes busily, and Attorney-General Lorrin Andrews sat facing him, a little closer to the press table. Judge Stanley, representing the legal interests of the Stanford heirs, was closer to Mr. Rawlins, with whom he was in constant whispered communication, evidently suggesting questions, and the jurors were grouped about the room variously, in easily lounging attitudes—but manifesting the keenest interest in what was going forward. Back of the press table, a few spectators went in and out.

Miss Berner, the companion, secretary and, it is said, the spiritualistic comfort of Mrs. Stanford, was the first witness called—and easily the most interesting. Perhaps even the chemists would not have been listened to with more attention. Miss Berner had not left her apartment in the hotel from the time of the tragedy until she appeared on the witness stand yesterday. She was dressed in white, the frock having an openwork front, with long sleeves and a high collar, and on her thin and long white hands, which she held clasped over a handkerchief in her lap most of the time, flashed a dozen rich rings. Her gray hair was dressed in a rather wide and becoming pompadour. A well-groomed woman, getting on in middle life, she had probably coached herself rigidly for this crisis, as a woman of her determined nature would coach herself for any crisis she might be called to face.

She showed no nervousness, beyond the clasping of the hands and a certain curious line that came and went between her brows when she was most attentive to the question asked her. She was under an intense strain, but she was marvelously well controlled. And she listened, quite until her questioner had finished, to every interrogation that was put to her by the Deputy Sheriff or the Attorney-General, answering nothing without thought and volunteering little. She was frank, if anything a thought too engagingly frank. But that might have been the mannerism of a woman who felt, as keenly as any one there, that every word that she said was being weighed as carefully as she weighed it—and might be twisted to she did not know what intent. She measured every word in its relation to every sentence, and every sentence in its relation to every other sen-

tence. It must have been plain to the dullest there that she was doing this—and the effort of it told upon her.

Miss Berner certainly is a most remarkable woman, and showed it in no way better than in the way in which she stood the ordeal of yesterday. There were other witnesses, of course, who told more thrilling stories at the inquest—but there will never be a witness heard in any case who will impress those who hear testimony more than this woman, a stranger among strangers and conscious of the possibility of hostility toward herself, who told yesterday her relations to the dead woman who was her benefactress.

Only when she told the actual story of death did she show any signs whatever of weakness.

May Hunt, the maid, was a self-possessed witness also, but she gave some significant testimony to the effect that the bottle of bicarbonate of soda stood on a stand in Mrs. Stanford's room at the California-street house, in San Francisco, for six days before it was packed in the medicine basket to be brought to Honolulu. And in that six days every person in the house had access to that room, more or less.

There were few new developments in the case yesterday aside from the inquest, but one of these was indicative of the fact that Mrs. Stanford may have taken some other medicine besides bicarbonate of soda that contained strychnine on the night of her death. It was not intimated that this medicine was purposely given. The strychnine in it was there as a part of a physician's prescription, and was not present in quantity sufficient to have caused death. But its presence in the stomach of the dead woman would have been enough to confuse the chemists, checking them in their efforts to ascertain the truth.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Miss Bertha Berner, private secretary to the late Mrs. Stanford, was the first witness examined. Her statement in response to the questioning of Deputy Sheriff Rawlins was as follows: "My name is Bertha Berner. I have been in Honolulu since February 21, 1905. I knew Mrs. Stanford, she was the widow of the late Leland Stanford, a senator from California. She was a resident of California, having residences in San Francisco and Palo Alto. I have known her since December, 1884, when I entered her service. I was her private secretary and am not related to her. I have been continuously in her service since 1884. I accompanied her to Honolulu from San Francisco. We sailed February 15, 1905, in the steamer Korea arriving in Honolulu. We did not come directly to the hotel, stopping at the cable office en route. Mrs. Stanford occupied room 120 at the Moana. No other person occupied her room with her. Miss Hunt and I accompanied her on the trip and we occurred in its relation to every other sen-

MARCH STOLEN ON THE HAWAII SUPREME COURT

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4.—To C. A. Galbraith, Honolulu.—A bill has passed Congress providing for appeals from the Supreme Court of the Territory of Hawaii to the Supreme Court of the United States in all cases where the amount involved exceeds five thousand dollars.

HENRY N. PROUTY.

The foregoing announcement of one of the most important pieces of Federal legislation for Hawaii since the passage of the Organic Act is the transcript of a Lieber code cablegram that former Justice Galbraith found upon his desk when he had returned from Maui, where last week he attended the taking of evidence in the Delegate's contested election case.

Mr. Prouty is an attorney for W. W. Bierce Co., Ltd., a large manufacturing corporation that recently met with an adverse decision in the Supreme Court of this Territory, whereby a verdict for about \$23,000 in its favor was reversed. This was in the Kona Sugar Co. litigation. Thereby hangs the tale of this sudden bolt of Hawaiian legislation from a clear sky in Washington.

Judge Galbraith was of counsel for the Bierce corporation in the Kona litigation here. When informed its case was lost the corporation immediately consulted Judge Galbraith as to whether or not anything further could be done at this end of the line. A cabled reply, followed with mail amplification thereof, was to the effect that a motion for a rehearing was not to be advised, as the Supreme Court here had taken considerable deliberation of the case before rendering its decision, and that the only recourse seemingly possible was to secure the passage of a bill in Congress providing for appeals from the Territorial to the Federal Supreme Court. With this effected, the Bierce case might be carried to Washington.

On receiving the cablegram the Bierce people thought the proposed scheme too formidable to develop, at least at the recent session of Congress. But when they received the fuller advice of Judge Galbraith by mail they forthwith became busy. They retained Mr. Aldrich, who was Solicitor General under the Harrison administration, to put the legislation through.

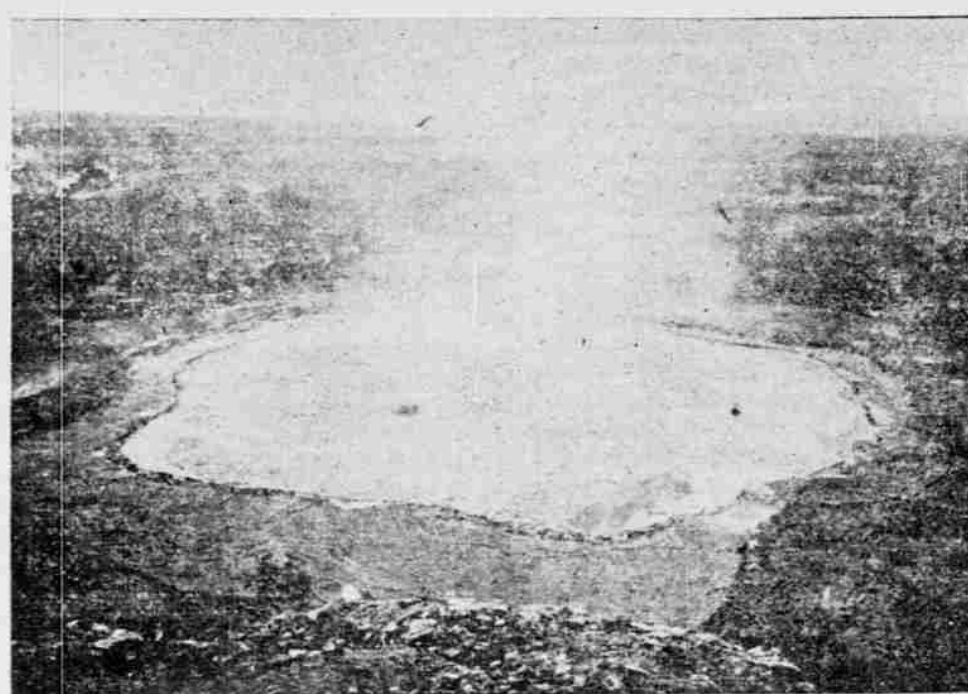
It was too late, if not hopeless otherwise, to gain the desired end through a special bill. Therefore a rider to the Judiciary Appropriation Bill, which carries all of the salaries for the higher courts of this Territory, was concluded to be the thing. This proposition, however, encountered a snag in the fact that the Judiciary bill had been approved before the scheme was perfected.

Nothing remained but to have the provision tacked to another appropriation bill. That the final effort succeeded appears a fact from the cable message just quoted. Judge Galbraith very courteously, in his apartments at the Young last night, gave an Advertiser reporter the foregoing history of the measure just enacted.

This matter of appeal to the Federal from the Territorial appellate court was threshed out before the Hawaiian Commission at its Honolulu sessions while preparing to draft the Organic Act. The decision was to restrict appeals from Hawaii to cases in which the constitution and laws of the United States were involved. This

(Continued on page 8.)

BECKLEY'S LIBATION TO THE FIRE GODDESS



KODAK PICTURE OF THE LAKE OF FIRE TAKEN SINCE THE PRESENT ERUPTION.

"Aloha nui, Pele!" shouted Admiral Beckley, standing on the brink of the crater of Kilauea and hurling a bottle of champagne far down into the midst of the fire that is now pouring into the pit from a point high up on the sides.

And if that greeting does not carry a sense of welcome to the fire goddess after her long wanderings in the under world, nothing will.

News yesterday was that the activity of Kilauea continued with increasing violence.

Stupendous upheavals occur in the lake of molten lava at frequent intervals.

A large crowd of visitors to the spectacular eruption will leave in the steamer Kinau today.

OYAMA WINS BIG VICTORY

The Most St. Petersburg Hopes for Is That Gen. Kuropatkin Got Away.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS.)

TOKIO, Mar. 7.—There is general confidence that a great victory has been won. It is believed that Oyama is already in possession of Mukden and has cut the railway to the north. Operations on the left and center continue successfully.

JAPANESE NORTH OF KUROPATKIN.

NEWCHWANG, Mar. 7.—It is reported that Nogi's and Kuropatkin's scouts are in touch behind Tieling.

(Tieling is fifty miles north of Mukden and is the place designated for Kuropatkin's next stand.)

THINKS KUROPATKIN GOT AWAY.

ST. PETERSBURG, Mar. 7.—The tide of battle in the vicinity of Mukden is ebbing. The Russian losses are 12,000 and 234 officers and the Japanese losses are 30,000. It is believed that Kuropatkin has successfully withdrawn. The Japanese have no further reserves.

AT A SAFE DISTANCE.

ADEN, Mar. 7.—A Russian warship is patrolling the Red Sea.

IMPORTANT NOMINATIONS BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

WASHINGTON, Mar. 7.—Postmaster General Wynne has been nominated for consul general at London and H. B. Miller for consul general at Yokohama. J. P. Connor goes as ambassador to Mexico, Whitelaw Reid to England, R. S. McCormick to France and G. B. L. Meyer to Russia.

STAYS ANOTHER YEAR.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 7.—Secretary Shaw will not retire from the Cabinet until next February.

CARNEGIE TESTIFIES AT THE CHADWICK TRIAL

CLEVELAND, Mar. 7.—The Chadwick trial has begun. Mr. Carnegie was present yesterday and testified that his signature on the Chadwick notes is a forgery. The trial was suspended owing to the nervous collapse of Mrs. Chadwick.

ST. PETERSBURG STRIKE RENEWED.

ST. PETERSBURG, Mar. 7.—Half the workmen in the city have renewed the strike.

LAST MEMBER OF THE CONFEDERATE CABINET DEAD

HOUSTON, Mar. 7.—John H. Reagan, formerly postmaster general of the Confederate Cabinet and the last survivor of Jefferson Davis's Cabinet, is dead.

John Henninger Reagan was born in Tennessee, Oct. 8, 1818. He spent his youth on a farm, was educated in a country school and had one year in college. He early went to the Republic of Texas where he served in the military, in the legislature and on the bench. He was a congressman in 1857-61. On the secession of Texas he became a member of the provisional congress and later postmaster general of the Confederate States. In 1865 he was appointed secretary of the treasury and on the fall of the Confederacy he was made a prisoner of war. In 1875-87 he was a member of congress, and was author of the "Reagan Union-Security Bill," the basis of the present law. He was U. S. Senator from 1887 to 1891 and since then has been chairman of the Texas State Railroad Commission.

A COLORADO SENSATION.

DENVER, Mar. 7.—State Senator Morgan claims that he was offered a bribe to vote for Adams.